

Mid-State Amateur Radio Club



President: Bob Cammack N9IMP
V. Pres: Randy Shake EC9LC
Secretary: Bill Brinkman KA9ZMU
Treasurer: Mac McCarty N99K



WB9YIG/R
146.835

The Spark Gap

November 1992

RESULTS OF OCTOBER TESTING

The following hams earned an upgrade at the October test session:

Ferenc Bathory	WD9DWQ	Columbus	Tech
David Caslan		Columbus	Adv
Donald Hansen		St. Paul	NC Tech
Mike Holland	KF9LH	N. Whiteland	Extra
Donald Porter	N9LXV	N. Vernon	Gen
Evan Tatlock	KB9HWC	Seymour	Tech
Valerie Ulmer		Hillsboro	Tech
Wilbur Ulmer		Hillsboro	NC Tech

CONGRATULATIONS MIKE !

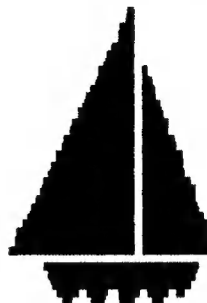
The final testing session for 1992 will be November 21 at Rushville.

GUY-WIRE CREW

On October 25th some of the MARC club members met at the Whiteland tower site to tighten-up the guy wires in preparation for turning over the tower to the city of Whiteland. Thanks to Bill Brinkmann KA9ZMU, Charlie Sears N9MEW, Joe Vergara KA9ZPA, Tom Carroll N9AZD, Dave Julian WB9YIG, Steve Benson N9NZI, Bob Cammack N9IMP, Ron Gaertner WB9NVM, and Curt McCarty N9JCI!

THE PUMPKIN PATROL

Members of the club turned out on Friday and Saturday October 30 and 31 for duty on the annual pumpkin patrol. There were about 10 who reported Friday and there was 24 on Saturday! Although both evenings were rather calm with no incidents of any vandalism, the areas of Johnson County were well covered by our local hams and the law enforcement groups. Thanks, guys!



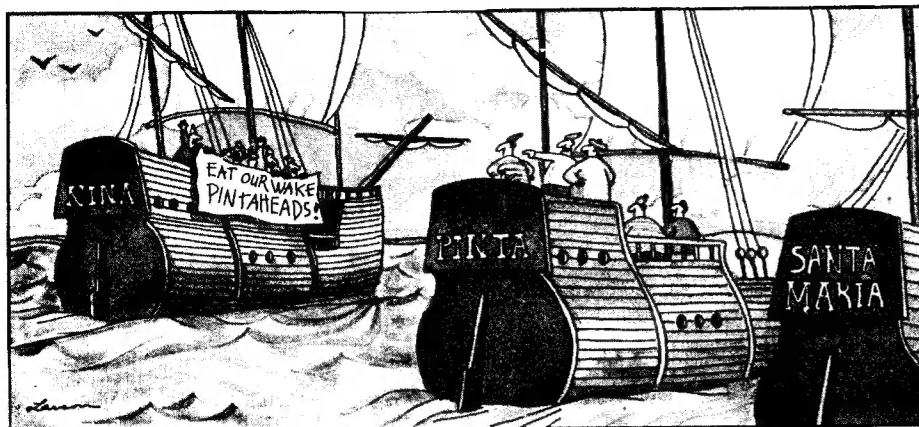
CRUISE OF THE TIEVOLI

Thanks to Tom Daugherty
N9QVN for this article:

In the November issue of the AAA bi-monthly magazine "HOME & AWAY" there was an article on the trip of the Tievoli to Spain. The article explains how Ralph Talbott KB9HRV became interested in making the AMERICA 500 trip. He enlisted the aid of Ray Trotta, an Indianapolis man who grew up on the east coast and lived around Long Island Sound. Ray had sailed most of his life and had acquired a knowledge of navigation. Together, they sailed for nine days to Spain covering 3500 miles.

Every midnight Ralph made radio contact with "South Bound Two", a ham operator named Herb in Bermuda who talks to all the ships at sea. Herb warned them of some impending storms and as a result the Tievoli avoided some 60 knot winds. They did, however suffer a broken transmission.

The article also mentions Eric KB9BGS and Jack NT9J who will be in the crew for the portion of the trip from Spain to the Canary Islands. About 200 yachts from around the world will be in the flotilla for the trip that is to end in San Salvadore in mid-December.



In The Wake of The TIEVOLI

Jack Parker NT9J

For a land-locked sailor the lure of sailing the clear blue waters of the Atlantic is the ultimate dream. It was one of mine. The opportunity of sailing a thirty-three foot ketch from Spain to the Canary Islands for two weeks seemed like the ultimate adventure! It turned out to be an experience I'll never forget!

While sailing from Huelva, Spain the small island of Porto Santo we went through a force 8 gale! Our crew spent the next 20 hours enduring 60 mile an hour winds and 30 foot seas. And I'll never forget the night Eric and I were pulling watch together when a huge wave crashed over the bow and smacked me in the face. It almost pulled me out into the angry Atlantic. It was the first of many waves that would soak the cabin over the next couple of days. Eric spent over two days living with wet shoes and socks. It was too rough to change! Everytime someone opened the cabin door to go topside another wave would find its way inside.

And of course, I'll never forget the long hours of feeling sea-sick from the violent motions of the boat. It was like being on the roughest ride at Kings Island for four days and not being able to get off!

By contrast we enjoyed visiting the

many historical sites. It was inspirational following in the footsteps of Columbus and his crew 500 years after their historic voyage.

We arrived in Seville, Spain October 7th after a twenty hour trip from Indianapolis. We knew the trip was off to a shaky start when the Spanish customs officer tried to confiscate my TV camera and the box of food and boat parts Eric was trying to bring into the country. After a twenty minute argument with him speaking perfect English and the customs official speaking perfect Spanish we figured out we were free to go.

During the next two weeks we visited five ports in three countries traveling over 1000 miles in nine days at sea. We visited the homes, churches, and ports where Columbus had lived and traveled. At each location along the way city officials stamped and signed our commemorative ships log. Nearly 300 people from the sixty boat fleet attended the special ceremonies and receptions. We became one big international family. By the time Eric and I landed in Las Palmas in the Canary Islands on October 24th we had made many new friends and had seen dozens of beautiful sights. It was a great experience being a part of a histo-

(Tievoli Cont.)

making voyage following in Columbus' wake.

I look forward to sharing our pictures and video tape with the club at the November 21st meeting. I would like to thank all the great ham radio operators in our club and in the Anderson club who took the time to make daily contacts with us on the maritime mobile net. We appreciate the extra daily effort everyone made in keeping our loved ones informed of our progress and welfare.

Eric KB9EGS, Jack NT9J, and Ralph KB9HRV plan to issue a special QSL card to everyone who made a contact with them during the voyage of the Tievoli in America 500. Dave Wendt KA900H, is serving as QSL manager. Ralph will not finish the journey until after Christmas, so don't look for your response until early 1993..

NEWS FROM COLUMBUS AREA

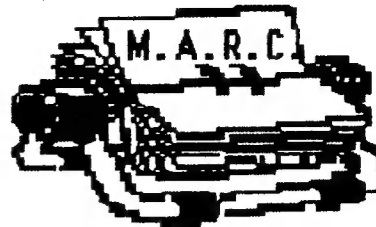
The last issue of the Columbus newsletter contained some items for sale that might interest some of our members:

100 Watt 430 Mhz Amp with Gasfet preamp.
60 ft. tower (48 ft. aluminum with 12 ft. Rohn 55 hinged base with wench.)

Cushcraft 424 , 432 Mhz Boomer Antenna.
KLM 432-16LB, 432 Mhz Beam antenna.

Complete Commodore Packet equipment.
If you are interested, contact Mac NV9K for any details.

The Columbus club has recently installed a new Diamond F-22A antenna on their repeater (146.790). The club also supported the Columbus Day 1992 special event station celebrating 500 years of the "New World."



New Members

We have three new members to the club which have not yet been mentioned in the newsletter; Tom Daugherty N9QVN and his wife Linda live in Greenwood. Tom works for the Amax Coal company. He has basic surveying equipment and knows how to use them. He also lists his interests as Public Speaking, and has skills in producing publications, flyers etc.. The club could certainly take advantage of these assets!

Another new member is Marold Montgomery N9RDN who lives in Shoals, Indiana with his wife Judith (also a ham N9RDO). Marold works for the Old Paths Tract Soc. Inc. Although the Montgomerys live outside the range of our repeater, they are often in our area visiting relatives.

The third new member is Jeffrey Sloman N1EWO, Jeff and his wife Renee' hail from Boston, Mass., and have recently moved into a home on Herriott street in Franklin. He is a writer and is currently a Packet Radio columnist and reviewer for 73 Magazine. His primary interest in amateur radio is in packet radio and computer networks.

The Mid-State club welcomes these new members and we hope they will participate in many of the club activities. We also hope to see all of you at the breakfast and meeting this saturday!



R. A. C. E. S.

This year's Halloween Patrol was a success thanks to all you guys who participated. A special thanks to the Net Control operators KB9BGV, KA9ZMU, KC9LC, and K9PDI. The willingness to give your time and use your special communications abilities to assist government officials for public safety is the key to R.A.C.E.S.

In future I intend to spend time at the E. O. C. For those who may want to sign up for RACES, acquaint yourself with the communications room, or for training purposes, I will be available on thursday evening at 7:00.

Congratulations to the new club officers. I am looking forward to working with you in '93.

73's from N9DON

Johnson County RACES officer.



From the
President:

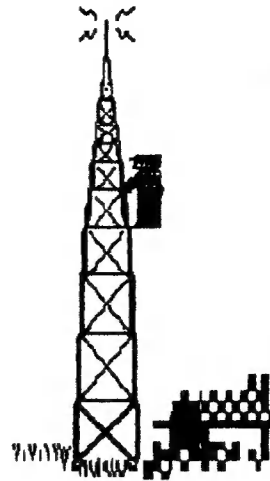
Present plans are to finish stripping the Whiteland tower in preparation for turning it over to the city of Whiteland.

If weather permits we plan to finish the work on the Whiteland tower on sunday November 22nd. Hopefully the crane will be available on that date. We could use the help of any club members available on that day. If you can help let me know at the meeting this saturday.

Bob N9IMP President.

TOWER DONATIONS

A special thanks to the following who donated to the Tower Fund: Sam Williams, N9IKI, KF9LQ, WB9AYB, WB5VZT, N9PUA, NT9J, KB9HRV, W9PSD, KB9DRM, N9JCI, NV9K, N9QBO, KB9HVW, N9MEW, KA9ZPA, N9MKR, N9NZI, K9VQI, KB9HSE, N9KDX, KF9LH, KA9OOH, and WA9ZET. We are still open for donations.



REPEATER REPORT

WB9YIG

Concerning the occasional problems on the receiver input, plans are being made to solve the problem. One option is to add a pre-amp. However care must be taken that the pre-am doesn't amplify the existing problem! The receiver needs to be dismantled for bench testing. When this is done the repeater will be off line for as much as two days. I hope club members will have patience with this inconvenience that seems to be necessary at this time.

Dave WB9YIG Repeater Trustee.

MEETING AGENDA

Reading of the minutes.

Treasurer's report.

Old Business.

New Business: Election of a RACES officer for 1993. (As per request of Sam Williams, Dir. Emergency Management.)

Program: Jack Parker NT9J: Tievoli experience with photos and video.

Adjournment.



Happy
Thanksgiving

